

REMARKS

Claims 4 and 5 have been cancelled. Claims 1 through 3 and 6 through 11 remain in the patent application. Claim 1 is in independent form.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by a United States Patent application having publication number 2003/0209655 A1 (the “’655 reference”). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

The ’655 reference discloses a single core sensor 400 having an elongated optical fiber 410. A pair of plates 471, 472 having ridges 471a, 472a that are offset create a series of micro-bends in the optical fiber 410.

Claim 1, as amended to clarify the invention, claims a multi-layered sensor having an optical wave guide. The optical wave guide defines a structure (52, 82, 104) in which the optical wave guide (18, 42, 60) is contained. The structure (52, 82, 104) has a front layer (54, 84, 106) and a rear layer (56, 86), which transmits an external application of force directly onto the optical wave guide (18, 42, 60). The structure is further defined by clips (34, 102) that force the optical wave guide (18, 42, 60) to bend in one direction and ribs (38, 62, 88) which serve to prevent the optical wave guide (18, 42, 60) from forcing the bends therein to extend through a single plane.

While the ’655 reference discloses a multi-layered sensor, it does not disclose a structure having clips and ribs which are used to guide the optical wave guide through bends in a single plane. Therefore, claim 1, and all claims depending therefrom, overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and are in condition for allowance.

It is respectfully submitted that this patent application is in condition for

Amendment
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allowance, which allowance is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this amendment or patent application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee associated with this Communication to Deposit Account No. 50-1759. A duplicate of this form is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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